REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 13, 2005, has been received and carefully noted.

The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 8, 9 and 11 have been amended, and claims 1, 7 and 13-20 have been canceled. New claims 21-26 have been added. Applicants submit that the amendments made herein are fully supported in the specification and the drawings as originally filed, and therefore no new matter has been added. Thus, claims 2, 3-6, 8, 9-12, and 21-26 are pending in the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter

As a preliminary matter, Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-4 and 8-10 of the present application, and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form incorporating all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

It is submitted that each of claims 2, 3, 8 and 9 has been amended in independent form incorporating all the limitations of base claims 1 and 7, respectively, and therefore claims 2, 3, 8 and 9 are allowable.

As claims 5-6 depend from independent claim 2, claim 4 depends from independent claim 3, claims 11-12 depend from independent claim 8, and claim 10 depends from independent claim 9, Applicants submit that each of these claims incorporates the patentable aspects therein, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claims, as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein.

New Claims 21-26

New claims 21-26 have been added. As new claims 21-22 depend from independent claim 3, and new claims 23-24 depend from independent claim 9, Applicants submit that each of these claims incorporates the patentable aspects therein, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claims, as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein.

New claims 25 and 26 have been added where each of new claims 25 and 26 incorporates the allowable subject matter recited in claims 2 and 3, and therefore claims 25 and 26 are allowable.

Claims 1, 5-7, and 11-20 Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 5-7, and 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Driscoll, Jr., et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,067,162, hereinafter "Driscoll"). In view of the above, Applicants submit that the rejection is now moot.

Conclusion

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time.

Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 024938-00001.

Respectfully submitted,

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